

## Senate Bill 168

By: Senators Kirk of the 13th, Burke of the 11th, Walker III of the 20th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Unterman of the 45th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE****A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 nurses, so as to revise certain definitions relating to nurses; to clarify requirements relating  
3 to granting authorization to holders of multistate licenses to engage in advanced nursing  
4 practice; to repeal a provision relating to the Nurse Licensure Compact; to provide for related  
5 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to nurses, is  
9 amended by revising paragraphs (1), (1.1), and (4) of Code Section 43-26-3, relating to  
10 definitions relative to registered professional nurses, as follows:

11 "(1) 'Advanced nursing practice' means practice by a registered professional nurse who  
12 is licensed by the board under this article or who holds a multistate license under Article  
13 4 of this chapter who meets those educational, practice, certification requirements, or any  
14 combination of such requirements; as specified by the board, and includes certified nurse  
15 midwives, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse  
16 specialists in psychiatric/mental health, and others recognized by the board.

17 (1.1) 'Advanced practice registered nurse' means a registered professional nurse who is  
18 licensed by the board under this chapter article or who holds a multistate license under  
19 Article 4 of this chapter, who is recognized by the board as having met the requirements  
20 established by the board to engage in advanced nursing practice, and who holds a master's  
21 degree or other graduate degree from an approved nursing education program and  
22 national board certification in his or her area of specialty, or a person who was recognized  
23 as an advanced practice registered nurse by the board on or before June 30, 2006. This  
24 paragraph shall not be construed to require a certified registered nurse anesthetist who  
25 graduated from an approved nurse anesthetist educational program prior to January 1,  
26 1999, to hold a master's degree or other graduate degree. Further, this paragraph shall not

be construed to require a registered professional nurse who holds a multistate license under Article 4 of this chapter authorizing such nurse to practice in another party state under a multistate licensure privilege to obtain a single-state license from the board as a condition of receiving authorization by the board to practice in this state as an advanced practice registered nurse."

"(4) 'License' means a current document, issued by the board, permitting a person to practice nursing as a registered professional nurse or a licensed undergraduate nurse. This term shall also include a multistate license issued by another state in accordance with Article 4 of this chapter permitting a person to practice nursing as a registered professional nurse in this state under a multistate licensure privilege."

## SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended by revising paragraph (4) of Code Section 43-26-32, relating to definitions relative to licensed practical nurses, as follows:

"(4) 'License' means a current document, issued by the board, permitting a person to practice practical nursing as a licensed practical nurse. This term shall also include a multistate license issued by another state in accordance with Article 4 of this chapter permitting a person to practice practical nursing as a licensed practical nurse in this state under a multistate licensure privilege."

### SECTION 3.

Said chapter is further amended by revising paragraph (2) of Code Section 43-26-50, relating to definitions relative to mandatory reporting requirements for nurses, as follows:

"(2) 'Nurse' means a registered professional nurse licensed or authorized pursuant to Article 1 or Article 4 of this chapter, an advanced practice registered nurse, as defined in paragraph (1.1) of Code Section 43-26-3, or a licensed practical nurse licensed or authorized pursuant to Article 2 or Article 4 of this chapter."

## SECTION 4.

Said chapter is further amended by repealing Code Section 43-26-65, relating to applicability of article to nurses whose states have substantially similar licensure requirements.

## SECTION 5.

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

58

**SECTION 6.**

59 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.